NOTES.

A permanent international ornithological committee, under the patronage of the crown prince Rudolf of Austria, has already begun the systematic collections of data on bird-psychology, including nest-building, brooding, feeding, uses and injuries, relations to their friends and foes, habits known to hunters, popular names, but more especially their migrations. A special journal, *Ornis*, was begun in 1885, and is largely devoted to the publication of these data. Observations from eighty-three stations are reported in systematic geographic order, which so far include three hundred and fourteen species of birds. Two annual reports (Jahresberichte) of naked observations have been published.

The Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland have instituted examinations for "certificates in psychological medicine." These examinations were based on three months' experience in asylum work, or lectures for a like period, and are both oral and written. Only physicians were admitted, and its certificates were sought not only by those desiring lunacy appointments, but as guarantees of the fitness of practitioners to deal with mental cases and sign medical certificates. The Gaskell memorial fund has since been applied to a prize for excellence in these examinations. It amounts to one thousand pounds, and two years' residence at an asylum is now required. The subjects for the annual honors examination, are four: 1. Healthy and morbid histology of the brain and cord. 2. Clinical cases, with commentaries. 3. Psychology, including the senses, intellect, emotions and volition. 4. Diagnosis, prognosis, pathology, treatment and medico-legal relations of mental diseases.

The Senate of the London University introduced for the first time in place of the old examinations in logic and psychology in the M. D. course, the subject of "mental physiology especially in relation to mental disorders." In 1886, the old subjects were also allowed as an alternative, but in future they will disappear. We cannot agree with the Journal of Mental Science that the examinations should be made to conform with that of the Medico-Psychological Association, but hold conversely that normal mental physiology should form one of the bases for the study of mental disorders.

The committee having the Belhomme prize in charge, consisting of M. M. Bouchereau, Dagonet, Fèrè, Foville and Sèglas, announce the following subject: "Investigation on the question whether there exists any emotional, physiological or psychological signs peculiar to criminals." Manuscripts must be in by the last of December, 1888.

Among the useful translations published in whole or in part in *The Platonist* since January, 1887, when the journal, now in its third volume assumed a new and better form, are the commentary

of Proklos on the first Alkibiades, Iamblichos on the Mysteries, Synesios on the Philosopher's Stone, the eleventh book of the Metamorphosis of Apuleius, the life of Hai Ebu Yokdan. The April number contains a plea for the establishment of a school of philosophy, chiefly to be devoted to esoteric theosophy, to be located at Los Angelos, California.

Archiv. fur Geschichte der Philosophie is the title of a new quarterly to be edited by Professors E. Zeller, L. Stein, H. Diels, Dilthey, and B. Erdmann. The history of philosophy has hitherto had no proper organ. Articles on these subjects must be sought in philological and theological, as well as philiosophical reviews. These are to be united in the new review, and speculative articles will be excluded. Contributors may write in German, Latin, Italian, French or English. About half of each number of the review will be devoted to notices of current publications bearing on the history of philosophy. Each number will contain about 150 pages. All communications should be addressed to E. Zeller, 4 Magdeburger Strasse, Berlin, or to L. Stein, Universität, Zürich.

In a brief article in the Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases, December, 1886, Dr. Spitzka, concludes from the study of a cat which had been kept alive three months after the destruction of its entire left cerebral hemisphere and thalamus, that there is "a system of fibres intermediate in position between the pyramid and interolivary tract, and decussating with the former, apparently derived from the neuclei of the posterior columns, and running with the latter on its cephalic course. It was probably the discovery of similar fibres that led Meynert into the formation of his well-known but now abandoned view, regarding the sensory and motor decussation of the pyramids." This would prove that these tracts contain fibre admixtures from other sources than those from which Flechsig exclusively derived them.

During the twenty-four years ending 1887, Dr. Allen Starr, of New York, found 160 cases of cerebellar disease reported in American literature, in 40 of which symptoms and autopsies were described sufficiently well to warrant conclusions. In these there was: headache in 26; insubordination in 25; vertigo in 20; vomiting in 18; blindness in 14; dim vision in 6; diplopia or strabismus in 7; deafness in 7; hemiplegia in 9; mental symptons in 8; partial paralyses in 4; facial spasm or parerves in 4; stupor in 7; convulsions in 1; mania in 1; sexual excitement in 2. Four interesting cases are described in detail in the same journal, (The Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases, April, 1887), by Dr. Seguin.

J. H. Lloyd, in a thesis for admission into the American Neurological Association, published in a late number of the Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases, after a long exposition of the mischief of metaphysical abstraction in the study of mental phenomenon, concludes that the doctrine of moral insanity implies that there is a distinct moral faculty in the sense of a distinct agent which may become diseased without at all affecting the health of other faculties. It, and a big brood of special manias, is but the creation of bad science. He does not add that the "faculty" is also very differently understood according as the utilitarian or intuitional view is adopted, which is another argument against it.

Dr. R. L. Parsons, in the Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases, April, 1887, summarizes the objections that have been so often put forth against the term monomania, and recounts the different senses in which it has been used since it was first introduced by Esqnirol. The term has been but slightly used of late in hospital reports in this country, and with little uniformity, because its literal and scientific meanings are so at variance. It is especially inconvenient where often used, viz.: in courts of justice. Partial mania and paranoia, which have been lately used in its place, are also unsatisfactory, and the term oligomania is proposed as a term whose obvious etymology best agrees with clinical facts.

Dr. Francis X. Dercum, in an article entitled "Facts and deductions bearing on the action of the nervous system," in a late number of the Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases, concludes that considerations of embryology and comparative anatomy, and various facts derived from other sources, point to the conclusion that the nervous system, though inextricably complex, and composed of an almost infinite number of parts, acts as a whole, and that its parts are so closely related and interdependent that no one part can move unless every other part, no matter how slightly or how profoundly, moves also.

Dr. M. Allen Starr, in the Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases for February, 1887, urges the more general employment of charts, like those of Erb, of electrical reaction, especially in paralytic and allied disorders. The author even thinks that in recoverable cases these curves enable prognoses as to the date of recovery to be quite exact. A simple chart is given for illustration, made by the aid of an absolute galvanometer in Milliamperes. The too common method of basing comparison on the number of cells is fallacious, as their strength is too variable.

Dr. Orgeas, in his book entitled *La Pathologie des Races Humaines et la Probleme de la Colonisation*, has rendered a real service to anthropologists and sociologists. A vast variety of facts is passed in review to illustrate the biologic principle of the non-cosmopolitanism of man. Permanent changes of latitude and climate are not permitted without deterioration. A change of residence brings artificial conditions of life. The physical differences in men are due to adaptation to different environments. The comparative pathology of different races is passed in review, and an important role is ascribed to it in determining the main facts of history. What races can best be adapted to what alien climate and by what adjustments this adaptation can be made with least loss, is fast becoming a grave problem in European statesmanship.

Dr. Gellé prints in *L'Encaphale*, 1887, No. 1, an interesting abstract of some observations made by himself on the role of the sensibility of the tympanum in the orientation of sound. A subject of Charcot's, on whom the first observation was made, was afflicted with general anaesthesia of the skin, extending to the external meatus of the ear and to the tympani of both ears, which were absolutely insensitive to contact or to pain, while light and hearing were intact, and the patient preserved his intelligence entire. With the eyes closed he could hear well the tick of a watch, but found it impossible to tell on which side or in which ear.

The experiments were repeated on this and other subjects suffering from general dermal anaesthesia, and always with the same result. Hence it is inferred that the sensibility of the tympanum is stimulated by the vibrating current, and hence comes not only the sense of direction, but of exteriority.

A recent visit to Gheel is reported in the Journal of Mental Science by Dr. Hack Tuke. The town now contains about 3,000 houses, about one-third of which receive lunatics, of which, including a few in a small asylum recently built for those of dirty habits, there are now over 1,600. The colony is under the general control of seven commissioners, who meet quarterly and report to the minister of justices, and is divided into two wards, each under a physician. Some of the cottages where the poorer patients are taken in and boarded are very humble. In the latter houses, where several patients are boarded out, is a special attendant. The highest sum paid is 200 pounds per year. The place is not very cleanly, and police regulations do not prevent the patients from entering public houses where drink is sold. The patients are mostly employed in some sort of labor, and offenses against morality are rare. There has been no homicides since 1850, and no fires set by patients for many years. Suicides have been rare, and there have been but three or four illegitimate births for the past ten years. Only sixty patients are in the asylum itself, which was opened only in 1861. The town was famous as a resort of lunatics in the fourteenth century. The church of St. Dymphna, built in that century, still contains the sick chamber where spiritual treatment was administered to lunatics. An iron chair, attached to a bedstead for restraining patients during the night, and iron rings are in the floor near the fire-place, to which the patient's chair, if not the patient, is secured. Dr. Tuke and his party were impressed with the economy and the moral effects of this system. The success of it cannot be judged by the "Scotch system" at Kennoway in Fifeshire, which is in many respects modeled after it. The latter is far smaller, is made up mostly of chronic dements, but the patients are more widely scattered and more intelligently supervised. The writer concludes that on the whole the plan is not desirable on any large scale in England, among other things, for the detriment it involves to the domestic life of the family which takes charge of the lunatic.

Dr. Francis Warner's "*Physical Expression*," vol. 52, of the international science series, is an original work of much value to the psychologist. The study of motor functions seems more likely to the author to lead to practical results than the subjective process of interpretation of feelings. People fitted for self-analysis are few and peculiar, so that only the small part of the field representing this coincident peculiarity has been worked over by this method. His method for screening different parts of the face is to cover the adjacent parts with a sheet of paper. Irritability in children causes the head to rotate, expressing negation, and drill in flexion, or nodding the head induces a state of acquiescence. The relation of hand postures to diseased states, and how to get the expression of mental action long before speech can disclose it, are points yet to be studied. The study of physiognomy apart from the rest of the body is an error.

At a meeting of the *Société de Psychologie Physiologique* Feb. 28, 1887. M. Babinski presented the results of experiments on an anæsthesic subject illustrating the survival of knowledge of the limbs and knowledge of movements accomplished after all dermal sensibility had been totally lost. With the eyes of the patient bandaged the arms could be placed in any position without any knowledge on his part of a change of place. If his eyes were closed while his hands rested on his knee, they could be lifted above his head afterwards and he believed they still rested on his knee. He was very clumsy and things slipped from his hands. With an arm elevated by a weight and pully, and being told to touch his knee, he felt for it about his shoulders. The time taken to affect movements and modifications of respiration seems the only basis of such rudamentary judgments of the position of his limbs as still remained.

Among the conclusions drawn by Dr. Descourtis, in a recent article on the cerebral thermometer, are the following: Sometimes the temperature reaches its maximum in fifteen or twenty minutes, and sometimes three or four hours are required; sometimes the temperature itself, or its slow increase or decrease, is constant, but often presents oscilliations which are commonly not regular, and sudden falls without known cause often occur. The temperature of the two sides often varies independently, and this difference seems greatest at low temperature, and sometimes it may rise on one side and fall on the other.

In an extended series of experiments on the mental representation of space, in connection with the feeling of effort, in the Rivista di Filosofia Scientifica, Mar-Dec. 1886, E. Morselli reproduced lines of various lengths with eyes open and closed, from which he concludes that the pshcho-physic law of the distribution of particular values about a mean hold of representations of space; that the tendency to increase small and diminish large distances holds of space as of time; and that the loss of spacial representation after a time illustrates the loss of memory, and proves that the concept of space is a product of habit and motor experience.

Dr. Paul Richer's Étude sur la Grande Hystérie ou Hystero-Epilepsie, is a work of great value to the psychologist, which, however, appeared too early for extended review in these pages, as it reached its second and greatly revised edition in 1885. Like Charcot, he ridicules the "pretendedly scientific skeptician," which ignores or even doubts the existence of the strange phenomenon here systematically described. Patients subject to these attacks were more common in France than elswhere, but it will be interesting to know if it may not also be observed in the Welsh and Irish branches of the Celtic Family. The stages to the description of which the work is mainly devoted are: (1) prodromata; (2) epileptic with tonic and clonic cramp, and relaxations or resolution; (3) contortions or clownism; (4) emotional and passionate attitudes; (5) delirium and hallucinations.

Dr. I. N. Ramaer, inspector of asylums in Holland, in an article on psychial analysis as the basis of morbid psychological diagnosis, urges that a careful study of the facts and laws of normal must

precede that of morbid psychology. The author starts with consciousness and thinks its origin is in the grey matter of the floor of the fourth ventricle, beneath the median groove. The just and important thesis that psychiatrists need psychology is not very adequately represented.

Bianchi (Arch. Ital. per le Mal. Nerv.) reports a grave case of hysteria, with hallucinations of hearing and visions, completely cured by a drastic course of moral treatment, which consisted in threatening an ovarian surgical operation with an elaborate display of apparatus, in applying a pretended cautery, really cold, to the abdomen, and in compelling the patient to appear in public at the moment of an attack.

Lussana (Arch. Ital. per le Mal. Nerv.) reports experiments on a surface of the outer part of the leg of a female patient of forty-five, who had lost the skin over a surface of 10 x 12 centimetres, from which he concludes that discriminative dermal sensibility is mediated by papilary bodies, particularly Meisner's corpuscles, but that the sense of material contact is independent of these bodies. The destruction of the skin and its nerves has no influence on the muscular sensibility of subjacent contractile bodies.

Vega (Arch. Ital. per le Mal. Nerv.) reports an interesting case of *folie a quatre*. The father of a woman of forty-seven was a foundling, who devoted much time and labor to find his true parents. She talked much of this, and at length thought herself the daughter and heir of high personages. This conviction she instilled into her mother (2) and into a lady whose servant she was, (3) and who identified a rich general as the father of her femme de chambre. The convictions persisted despite all disproofs, and when the author of the delusion married, her husband soon became infected with the monomania. The four had a course of similar hallucinations of hearing and general sensibility, erroneous interpretations, grievances, etc., and even after separation the deliriums continued, taking no account of the death of their assumed protectors and persecutors.

Algeri (Arch. Ital. per le Mal. Nerv.) reports with tables observations on 314 insane women from fifteen to forty-five, from which he concludes that the menstruration is almost always more irregular with insane than with sane women. In chronic psychopathies and in dementia menstrual disturbances are more marked than in melancholy and mania of recent origin. Menstruration generally coincides with psychopathic aggravation. This relation is best seen in periodic insanity.

Guicciardi and Tanzi (Rev. Sperim. di Fren.) tested the reaction time of fourteen cases of chronic hallucination of hearing with systematized delusion, and found it to be on the average 117.5 thousandths of a second, as compared with 119.5 in ten normal cases.

Tanzi and Riva (Rivista Sperim. di Fren.) observed 103 cases of systematized delusions among 729 insane patients, and infer that this psychophysic modality is less frequent than might be inferred from the prominent place it occupies in the body of psychatry. Women are less liable to it than men, and it develops especially at the

menopause. It is eminently a malady of degeneration, chronic, and of very long evolution. It is neither uniform in its progress nor is its form fixed, but its metamorphoses are extremely gradual. It is a perversion not an enfeeblement of the faculty of thought.

Amadei and Tonnini (Arch. Ital. per le Mal. Nerv.) have prepared the following classification of systematized delusions or paranoia. I. Degeneration paranora, on the basis of a congentially vicious organization, with somatic signs of hereditary degeneracy. Its development may be a. early, or b. late, and each of these may be (*a*) simple, *i. e.* with delirium of persecution, ambition, religion, love. On (*b*) hallucinnatory, *i. e.* the same as (*a*) with hypochondriacal symptoms. II. Psycho-neurotic paranoia. A. primary. B. secondary. Each with sub-divisions.

Baistrocchi (Rev. Sperim. di Fren.) has determined the weight of the white and grey substances of the brain by the aid of a Nicholson monumental aerometer in air and in distilled waters. The density of the entire encephalon in 21 men was 1.0265, in twenty-two women, 1.0338; of the spinal cord, 1.0387 for men, and 1.0448 for women. The grey substance of the cortex is lightest. Next comes the white cortical substance, the grey of the basal ganglia, the cord, the mid-brain and cerebellum which is heaviest of all. In general, density increases with absolute weight. It increases to the age of forty, and then steadily decreases, while the cord is at its maximal density in the fœtus.

Tamburini and Riva (Riv. Sperim. di Fren.) in sixty cases of general paralysis found lesions of the frontal lobes in 56 cases, of the parietal in 44, of the sphenoidal in 27, the temporal in 19, the occipital in 9, and the island in 3.

Morselli (Riv. Sperm. di Fren.) has applied the dynamograph of Régnier with registering apparatus to the diagnostic study of nervous disorders in diseases of the nervous system. The normal curve of the healthy subject is not very unlike that obtained from an excised nerve-muscle preparation; the neuropathic curves present many variations which are highly suggestive, but we opine, not sufficiently studied to present settled results as yet.

Musso (Rev. Sperm. di Fren.) examined the pupils of 70 epileptics and found them no larger than normal individuals. The diameter in sanity oscilates between 3 and 6 mm., with epileptics from 2 to 6 mm. The prodromal stage of convulsions is often signalized by remarkable difference between the diameter of the two pupils.

Adriani (Rev. Sperm. di Fren.) argues that the doctor should give the same care to the school that a mother gives to her child. Children with hereditary predisposition to insanity or general neural weakness, should not be educated in schools with perfectly normal children, but apart in special institutions, as they need prophylactic treatment.

A remarkable case of hereditary colored vision is described in The Rev. Philos. for Feb., 1887, in which a father son and daughter saw vowels and consonants similarly colored.

Liébeault, in his *Confessions d' un Medicin hypnotiseur*, recounts the different methods of producing hypnotism that he has used. Braid's fixation method was found occasionally to cause convulsions, and he recommends *gradual* suggestion, drooping of lids, falling of head, heaviness of lids, etc. Gradual awakening was also found far less productive of unpleasant sensations than if sudden.

Fioretti, in a late number of the Archivio di Psichiatria Scienze Penali, attempts to show that in normal, pathalogical and hypnotic cases the given and conscious motive is not the real cause of the act, but a mode by which the agent indulges the causal instinct, by explaining to himself conduct the primal source of which has escaped him. Thus the motive for a crime is not the absolute criterion of imputability.

Lombroso recounts some remarkable cases of memory of letters and figures impressed hypnotically, and enumerates the pernicious results of the exhibitions of the public mesmerist Donato at Turin alone as follows: One of his subjects was soon after attacked with paresis, another while at a theatre became cataliptic, another thought himself always hypnotized, another fell into epiliptic convulsions; a mathematical student could not adjust his compass without becoming cataleptic, and another must run after all carriages in the street with lanterns. All such public exhibitions, it is concluded, should be forbidden.

Danilewsky, in a late number of the Archives Slaves de Biologie, reached experimentally the conclusion that the stimulating influence which the hemispheres exert on the optic lobes, bulb and medulla is replaced, after ablation of the brain by increased excitability of these organs caused by excitations from the external world through the senses.

Jendrassik in two recent articles in the Archives de Neurologie, rejects the chemical vaso-motor and all other current views, and concludes that the cause of hypnotic phenomenon is loss or diminution of association.

Cappie, in Brain, July 1886, concludes that in attention the encephalic circulation is concentrated in certain cells, and as the quantity of blood in the brain cannot be increased or diminished other parts of the brain are depleted, In epileptic attacks, moter cells absorb the blood, leaving the cells in which consciousness subsists anaemic.

Ch. Richet, (Rev. Philos., Jan., 1887), describes the typography of certain neuropathic subjects which gets into print, and which, like their writing, is often marked by the most bizarre traits. In twelve lines eleven are different kinds of type; seventeen lines are from twelve different fonts, etc., and compares with this the style of a "certain contemporary school of poetry, the lines of which may be read in inverse order, so profoundly obscure is the sense.

In an experiment made on hysterical subjects in different states of hypnotism and echolalia, and lately reported to the French Society of Physiological Psychology, the reaction time from ear to mouth in the waking state was thirty-nine hundredths of a second; in somnambulism thirty-three, and in the state of echolalia, hypnotically induced, but thirty-one.

Peli compares the cephalometry of 670 lunatics with sane persons of the same class and locality, and finds the insane head is longer, higher and broader, and anomolies in the shape of the skull are three times as frequent, more so in males than in females, and mostly in hereditary forms.

Poggi examined the cerebral convolution of fifty brains of the insane, and found anomalies more common than in the sane, especially in the left hemisphere. The most frequent anomaly is a double calcarine fissure, or communication between the internal occipito-parietal sulcus and the sulci of the cuneiform lobule—40 per cent. Insane brains are particularly characterized by numerous anastomotic folds.

Dr. Legrain, in his Du Délire chez les Dégénérés, would substitute the term degenerative for hereditary insanity. He describes the physical and mental symptoms characterizing such cases, and describes them as very slowly evolving, taking on different forms sometimes in rapid succession, recovery from one followed by relapse to another, often attended by alcoholism and ending in dementia.

H. Beannis reports in a note in the Rev. Philos., March, 1887, the following experiment: The sensibility of the mucous membrane of the vocal cords of a singer was destroyed by cocaine without sensibly altering the accuracy of his song. From this he concludes that there is a muscle-sense which plays its role in giving accuracy to notes.

In a late number of the Medical Times Dr. L. W. Fox and G. M. Gould plead for a law restraining peddlers, jewellers and opticians from prescribing glasses. Many cases of injury, often permanent, to eyes resulting from errors thus made are cited, and it is claimed that legal restrictions are as much needed for the optician as for the druggist.

Bertillon proposes to identify criminals by measuring their height, the head, length of left arm and foot, and colors of the right eye. Altogether these measurements have already been the means of recognizing over seven hundred rearrested criminals without a single error.

Jeronimo Vida considers society an organism, the individuals composing which are related as cells in the animal body, and would thus approximate social and biological sciences. The social individual, however, is not the single person, which, unlike the physiological cell, lacks the reproductive function. This idea has been long ago worked out in far greater detail by Linienfeld, Espinas and others.

Dr. Christian argues, in a late number of the Journal of Mental Science, that general paralysis does not entail any increased fragility of the bones, and that osteo-malakia, when present, is the result of other causes. The great number of fractures in these cases is due to the great number of falls.

Dr. C. W. Cobbold prints, in the Journal of Mental Science, an elaborate plan, with cuts, of a model lunatic asylum for three or four hundred patients, with an interesting discussion of other plans.

Montegagga's *La Physionomie et les Sentiments* is not only a scientific but a most readable book. The cuts, by Hector Ximenès, are a new departure from the wearisome reproductions of Lavater, and the face is discussed feature by feature, in a way which marks an advance beyond both Darwin and Delsarte.

J. Heiberg's *Cutaneous Nerve Supply*, translated into English by Wagstaffe, is a small, useful book for both students and practitioners. The plates are a judicious compromise between plainness and literal reproductions from nature.

Lengelmann's *Idiotophilus* is a new, valuable and comprehensive work on idiocy by an eminent specialist. It is on the whole the best general treatise on the subject since Seguin.